Rare Coins, Medals and Paper Money -- Bought and Sold

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401
1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

Feb. 2, 1964

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros. Stores, Inc.
400 Washington St.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric,

Since you are determined to have the 1913 experimental nickel written up, I would like the privilege of doing so. The reason is that I have in my possession a genuine 1942-S nickel, type I, and in the regular nickel alloy. The means I have used to authenticate it will make interesting reading. Also, I have the correct mintage figures on the 1909-10 pattern nickels, most of which are unique and not R-8 as Judd says. I will call the article "The World's rarest nickels", or better, "The World's most valuable nickels" or something like that. If, therefore, you can send me a photo of the original Samuel Brown (or is it the August Wagner) plush-lined case, plus a snap of each side of your nickel, plus a photocopy of the relevant lab graph, I will appreciate it. I will send you the article for inspection before I submit it to The Numismatist.

Really, Judd is so goofy. He says that Patterson died in 1851, ending the Patterson-Longacre feud. Actually, Patterson only retired in that year -- and not even from the Mint, but only as Director, because of the protests of Philadelphians over his administration. He claimed he was retiring for reasons of health, but immediately installed himself as Chief Clerk under Director Eckert and continued his malignant designs. At other times, Patterson served as Acting Director and Acting Assayer! ~~xxxxxx~~ He resigned from the Mint when Snowden came in, but in 1868 was still trying to get Longacre fired!

The Expenses of the Continental Congress under the Board of Treasury are vague and do not tell us whatwe want to know. There is no mention of Gallaudet, of dies, of a Mint or anything else, but there are many sundries which could include these items. Since no vouchers now exist, however, these records are useless. They may, however, be of interest to you in your work on paper currency as there are many references for payment to persons for conducting the money to different places, for the purchase of reams of paper etc. When I was there these ledgers had been microfilmed up to 1781 and they were in the process of finishing them. The roll up to that date cost $8.00 and if you sent in a check for that amount to the attention of ~~xxxxxx~~ Dr. Hope Holdcamper, you could probably have it sent right away. Has your son Andrew had the opportunity yet to check the Chronicle? When are you coming in to N.Y.? I have some fantastic items to show you. By the way, I found out that Mr. Anthony de Francisci is still living in N.Y. and he is lending me an original sketch which the Fine Arts Commission wanted to use for the Peace Dollar. Fancy that! P.S. and important. Can you please send me the date of the AJN article I sent you on the 1776 Mint in Philadelphia. I have misplaced my original copy.

Best regards,

Don

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
MONEY MUSEUM

Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020

5 August 1964

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

I am glad to know that you have already returned from Europe as I was wondering when you would be leaving. I am equally glad to know you will be in Cleveland. I will be there on the 20th and 21st and you can reach me at the Statler Hilton. If you want to ring me up before this time please do so at the office here. The number is CI 6-7400, ext. 248, and we are here from 9-5 on Tuesday through Saturday. (On Saturday the telephone number is CI 6-7408.)

Regarding the Buffalo Nickel material. I have written to Mrs. Fraser requesting permission to publish some of her late husband's correspondences. I did not want to do anything with this before my book came out but Mr. Ratzman has forced my hand.

I greatly look forward to seeing you in Cleveland as I know we both have so many things to talk about.

Cordially,

Don

Donald P. Taxay
Curator

P.S. Do you recall the date of J. P. Randall's erroneous comment on the 1913 copper buffalo? Also, is it type I or II? I honestly have forgotten.

dpt/kss

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK

MONEY MUSEUM

Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020

11th August 1964

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P. O. Box 14020
St.Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

I enclose a photocopy of the Jarvis petition which you may keep as long as you wish. I am very excited about the Boulton discovery and will write to the library today.

As regards Mr. Ratzman, I have thought it over and agree that it would be best to tell the boy that the material has already been written up and will be released soon in a book. This delicate task I leave to you. I will see you in Cleveland and continue our tete-a-tete.

Cordially,

Donald P Taxay

Donald P. Taxay
Curator

dpt/kss

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK

MONEY MUSEUM

Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020

29th December 1964

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Fugio file

My dear Eric:

As per your request, Buttrey's address is as follows:

Dr. Theodore V. Buttrey, Jr.
Department of Classical Studies
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

If you can find out Stillman's real plans I should certainly like to know them. In just a few days I will send you carbons of the first two parts (i.e. the first half) of my Mint book. Actually, there is no real need for me to go into the patterns, and if you like, I can just make mention of them and refer to your C.C.J. article. Whatever way you want to work this thing will be all right with me, though I prefer you do not tell anyone how close I am to completion that they may have any more incentive for themselves. As I started to tell you, Mrs. Harley copied two paragraphs from letters of Droz to Boulton. I will have to have them translated as my French is tres mal, but from what I can see they do not appear to be very pertinent.

With all best wishes for the New Year,

Don

Donald P. Taxay

Donald P. Taxay
Curator

dpt/kss

January 7, 1965

Mr. Don Taxay
Chase Manhattan Bank Money Museum
1254 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020

Dear Don:

Would you give me the excerpt about the Fugio patterns, or dies, in the New York Coin Company's sale of the Woodside collection which was held on August 23, 1892. At the same time I think you should check the Edward Cogan sale of the James E. Root collection held December 16, 1878, where some Fugio dies were sold, and let me know what that says. I had planned to look up these matters but it is better if you do it now.

I had a long talk with Spilman, and he said for about a year he had done almost nothing on the Fugio matter. He has moved from Little Rock to Huntsville, and I asked him whether he wanted to give consideration to both of us working together on a detailed book on the Fugio coinage. I told him to think about it and that I would think about it. In effect, he indicated he was not working on any text at all. I told him I had a substantial lot of new historical information which Douglas did not have but did not tell him what it was.

When the Fugio dies were used in 1855-60 to make a few trials, they probably broke the one which is at A.N.S.but they might have made an extra set of dies just in case one broke. The obverse of the New Haven die broke while being used at Waterbury. That is why two reverse dies in good shape might be the A.N.S. dies and no unbroken obverse.

In addition the gold Fugio (ex Brand) has a badly broken obverse.

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK

MONEY MUSEUM

Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020

7th January 1965

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I enclose a copy of the Droz extracts sent by Mrs. Harley. As you can see they are not of much interest; also an extract from the diary of James Allen of Philadelphia which may be of interest to you. Allen was a representative in the Assembly for Northampton County.

I have been meaning for three letters to tell you, that if you have not already forwarded the Sloss patterns, not to do so but to return them directly to the good doctor. I will send you a copy of the first half of my ms. as soon as I get it back from Julian Boyd.

Cordially,

Donald P.

Donald P. Taxay
Curator

enc.

dpt/kss

Droz' letters

1. Paris, November 26, 1787

"... On arriving, I went to see Mr. Jefferson, the U. S. representative, but he was in the country. I shall not fail to return to him one of these days and to submit to him the designs for the vases and vessels which you sent me for him."

2. Paris, February 18, 1788

"... I have not seen the American Agent but Mr. Jefferson who has seen a minter a long time ago and who wrote to Congress to have the die sent to me and I have reason to hope that we shall have it; I have just been commissioned by the U. S. representative to make the medal of General Washington."

Diary of James Allen

"After having issued 20 millions of paper Dollars, they resume the old scheme of borrowing, giving 4 percent Interest. But I have not heard of one person lending them a shilling."

P.S. I just realized I don't have a date on the Allen citation. It is from Penn. Magazine, 1885. p.189

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
MONEY MUSEUM

Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020

16th March 1965

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Thank you for the excellent Brasher citation. I went to the A. N. S. and carefully checked through the catalogue of the James E. Root collection sale. I saw three worn examples of regular issue Fugios, but not a whisper of anything like a pattern or a restrike. Either your source was misinformed, or the Fugios go into hiding when they see me coming. Please let me hear from you on this. In about a week I will be sending you the first half of my MS which includes the Diggs letter. The only thing of importance that was omitted by Julian was a phrase to the effect that Westwood still had possession of the dies.

As for the certificate, I can think of no place to include it but among our aboriginal currencies. Naturally we could not afford to purchase any such magnus honorarius, but perhaps you will accept in trade my recollection of a letter from Mr. K. to a certain P. N. G. member, formerly located on Fifth Avenue in New York, requesting that he not sell so many bad coins.

Kindest regards,

Don

Donald P. Taxay
Curator

P. S. Had I known you were going to check out so soon, I would have said goodbye, but I hate professional comedians, etc.

dpt/kss